Public Safety Interoperable Communications Office (PSIC)
Multiple Projects Updates
January, 2014

Key Upcoming Events

- [Federal Homeland Security Grant Program (HSGP) Information Seminars](#)
    - January 21, 2013 – Southern Arizona/Tucson Metro Area
    - January 22, 2013 – Central Arizona/Phoenix Metro Area
    - January 23, 2013 – Northern Arizona/Flagstaff Metro Area

- Homeland Security Senior Advisory Committee Meeting - January 24, 2014 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.
    - Arizona Department of Administration Building
    - 100 N. 15th Avenue, Suite 300
    - Phoenix, AZ 85007

- Regional Governance Meetings (See Governance section below for details)
    - January 28-29, 2014 –for Coconino and Yavapai counties
    - February 3-5, 2014 – Regional Meetings for Graham, Greenlee, Gila, Navajo, and Apache counties
    - February 12-13, 2014 – Regional Meetings for Cochise and Santa Cruz Counties

Technical Assistance (TA) Updates:

- FFY2014 TA requests to Office of Emergency Communications (OEC): After analysis of PSCC, SIEC, and stakeholder feedback and evaluation of which TAs appropriately support planned State of Arizona interoperability initiatives, the following FFY2014 requests were submitted:

    - TRG-COMT TTT: Communications Unit Technician Train-The-Trainer Course – Awarded
    - OP-COMMEX: All-Hazards Communications Unit Exercise – Awarded
    - TIC-FOG: Tactical Interoperable Communications Field Operations Guide (TICFOG) Development – Awarded
    - TRG-AUXCOMM: Auxiliary Communications Workshop – Deferred
    - SOP-DEV: Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) Development Workshop – Deferred

- The FFY2013 TA award for Outreach, planning, and data collection for Broadband (ENG-BRDBND) has been rolled over to 2014.

- Border Interoperability Demonstration Project (BIDP) TA: The City of Yuma is advancing the following TA assistance:

    - Tactical Interoperable Communications Field Operations Guide Development (TIC-FOG) – Complete

    - Communications-Focused Functional Exercise (OP-FE) – Complete

    - Communications-Focused Exercise Workshop (OP-TEPW) – Complete

    - Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) Development (SOP-DEV) – In progress

- The Navajo Nation has been offered a Technical Assistance award from the Office of Emergency Communications (OEC). The PSIC Office participated in a discussion led by OEC with the Navajo Nation Department of Emergency Management to determine which Technical Assistance offering they would participate in. The PSIC Office has offered to assist OEC and the Navajo Nation where applicable with this project. A date has not yet been set.

Governance (SCIP Initiatives #1 - 3)

- PSCC Sunset Review: The statutory authority of the PSCC is currently set to expire on July 1, 2014. On October 23, 2013, the Senate Public Safety & House Public Safety, Military & Regulatory Affairs Committees conducted a Sunset Review of the PSCC and voted to extend the legislation through 2016, and require another review in June 2015. The bill to extend the PSCC's authority and budget (HB2136) has been drafted with support from Representatives Mitchell, Borrelli, and Cardenas. This legislation will continue the PSCC until July 1, 2016 and requires PSIC to submit a sunset report on or before June 30, 2015.

- Regional Governance Groups: The Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) Office, through a grant from the federal Department of Homeland Security (DHS), is hosting numerous countywide meetings to facilitate the creation of county level interoperable communications committees.

  Given the central role communications plays in day-to-day activities, interoperability demands special attention among the public safety community. In light of this, public safety officials benefit by having a forum to voice their suggestions and opinions about interoperable communications. These meetings will provide a forum to shape long-term interoperability planning and strategy and provide a platform for:

  o Sharing interoperability barriers, challenges, and success stories from local, county, tribal, federal and State perspectives
  o Establishing county level interoperability priorities
  o Assessing and prioritizing National Emergency Communications Plan (NECP) Goal 2 gap closure recommendations
  o Identifying key stakeholders to work in conjunction with the PSIC Office to complete recommendations
  o Facilitating Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan (TICP) updates and training
  o Discussing upcoming training opportunities, exercises, and planned events

County	City	Location	Date	Time
Coconino	Flagstaff	Law Enforcement Admin Facility 911 E Sawmill Rd	1/28/2014	2-4pm
Yavapai	Prescott Valley	Central Yavapai County Regional Training Academy 601 E Valley Rd	1/29/2014	9-11am
Apache	Springerville	Apache County Round Valley Annex 309 S Mountain Ave	2/3/2014	1-3pm
Navajo	Show Low	Navajo County Health Building 600 N 9th Place	2/4/2014	9-11am
Gila	Globe	Gila County EOC Central Heights Complex 5515 S Apache Ave, Ste 400	2/4/2014	2-4pm
Graham and Greenlee	Safford	Graham County Health Annex Building 820 W Main St, Safford 2nd Floor Conference Room	2/5/2014	9-11am
Cochise	Sierra Vista	Sierra Vista Police Department 911 N Coronado Dr	2/12/2014	1-3pm
Santa Cruz	Rio Rico	Rio Rico Fire Station #2 951 Calle Calabasas	2/13/2014	9-11am

All local, county, tribal, federal and State public safety personnel interested in advancing interoperable communications are encouraged to participate. The meetings will be open to all law enforcement, fire, emergency medical services (EMS), emergency management, public health, public transportation, non-governmental organizations, and any other personnel involved in interoperability efforts within the county.

For more information, please contact Gregory Sundie, PSIC Project Manager, at (602) 315-6983 or gregory.sundie@azdoa.gov.

- CASM & TICP's:
    - All counties within Arizona now have a TICP.
        - Yavapai County participated in a TICP Development workshop in October and have received their final draft.
        - Gila County participated in a TICP Development workshop on September 24th and have received their final draft. Graham and Greenlee Counties did a joint TICP in the same meeting and have also received their final draft.
        - Pima County updated their TICP that was originally created in 2010. It will go before the Pima County UASI Working Group for approval.
        - The PSIC Office has begun working with Pinal County to update their 2011 TICP and CASM data. The update workshop will be scheduled in early 2014.
    - PSIC is creating a state-level TICP to include federal and state-owned communications assets available for deployment statewide, which will be provided to all Arizona counties upon its initial completion. For more information, contact Karen Allen at Karen.Allen@azdoa.gov.
    - The PSIC Office is updating communications asset data from TICPs in CASM, as it is provided. Agencies that would like to update CASM data may request a report containing their assets.
- Southwest Border Communications Working Group (SWBCWG): Greg Sundie joined approximately 15 attendees from local, county, state, and federal organizations at the quarterly on January 8, 2014, in League City, TX. Attendees presented updates on various local projects sponsored by the Federal government, including the Rio Grande Valley Border Interoperability Regional Project, and the Yuma BIDP Exercise held last year. An overview was presented of the Department of Emergency Management for the Navajo Nation. Updates were provided on Executive Order 13616: Accelerating Broadband Infrastructure Deployment. Harris County presented an overview of their Broadband Interoperability Gateway Network. Further updates were provided on the Cross Border Security Communications Network (CBSCN) and the U.S.-Mexico Cross Border Communications agreements. California gave an overview of their Border Communications efforts. Following formal presentations, an open discussion period was allowed to cover stakeholder updates, a review of action items and next steps, and planning for the next meeting.

SOPs (SCIP Initiative #4)

- Annual Review of Policies, Standards and Procedures (PSP): The PSIC Office is seeking feedback on the governance policies, standards, and procedures (PSP) approved by either the Public Safety Communications Advisory Commission (PSCC) or Statewide Interoperability Executive Committee (SIEC). As part of our annual review, we are seeking feedback on the following documents:
    - PSCC Operating Principles Document (Approved July 20, 2010)
    - SIEC Operating Principles Document (Approved May 18, 2010)

    Review Timeline:
    - January 2 – 13, 2014: Internal review of PSPs
    - January 14, 2014: Email sent to all stakeholders requesting Feedback on 2014 Annual Review of Governance PSPs
    - January 21, 2014: Presentation and request for feedback from SIEC
    - January 30, 2014: Comments on Governance PSPs due to PSIC Office
    - Early February, 2014: Draft revisions of all Governance PSPs to be sent to interested parties email list and posted on the website
    - February 15, 2014: Deadline for feedback on Review Drafts of technical PSPs
    - February 18, 2014: Presentation and request for feedback from PSCC
    - Early March: Approval Draft of revised PSPs to be released
    - March 18, 2014: SIEC presentation and possible approval of revised SIEC Operating Principles
    - April 15, 2014: PSCC presentation and possible approval of revised PSCC Operating Principles

    For additional information, please see the Annual Review Process for Approved Policies, Standards and Procedures.

- [Public Safety Library](#) – The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Office of Emergency Communications (OEC) recently launched this national website which hosts a reference document library for the public safety communications community. It's goal is to assure the most accurate and up-to-date information is available at all times to public safety first responders. The latest versions of all Arizona PSP's can be found on the [PSIC Office Website](#) and in the [Public Safety Library](#). Mobile applications are also available in the [Apple App Store](#) and in [Google Play](#). Users of the mobile applications will receive a push notification whenever a document is updated.

Technology (SCIP Initiatives #5 - 9)

- Arizona Interagency Radio System (AIRS) (Initiative #5): A list of agencies who have signed the AIRS MOU is available on the PSIC Office website at: http://www.azpsic.gov/library/airs/airs_user_list.pdf

- AIRS (Initiative #5): AIRS Improvement and Sustainability Plan – The [Arizona Interagency Radio System (AIRS) Improvement & Sustainability Plan](#) establishes requirements for the integration of locally procured AIRS infrastructure into the statewide AIRS system and provides guidance for initial approvals and ongoing maintenance responsibilities. For assistance with completing the established procedures please contact Glade Jarman at Glade.Jarman@azdoa.gov.

- Support of Regional Communication Systems (Initiative #6) – Yuma Regional Communications System (YRCS) Border Interoperability Demonstration Project (BIDP):

  o The Yuma County TICP was updated through a BIDP Technical Assistance award. Material from the updated TICP was used to develop a Tactical Interoperable Field Operations Guide (TICFOG). The Yuma TICFOG is now being distributed to stakeholders.

  o On August 29, 2013, Yuma received approval for a TA for SOP Development which will begin in early 2014. The BIDP Exercise After Action Report (AAR) will provide a basis for the SOP Development.

  o For more information contact Stephen Holland, Assistant IT Director of Telecommunications with the City of Yuma at Stephen.Holland@yumaaz.gov.

- State Agency Operability in support of Interoperability (Initiative #9) – The [RICO Project](#) has completed:

  o Connections with the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP) are established to tie the PSAPs in the region and the State EOC together for interoperability. The Southeast Arizona Communications Center talk group (SEACC) went live on January 1, 2014 with the following participating agencies:

AZ State EOC	Douglas Police Dept	Pinal County SO
AZ DPS	Gila River Indian Community	Santa Cruz County SO
Casa Grande PD	Graham County SO	Sierra Vista PD
Cochise County SO	Nogales Police Dept	Tohono O'odham
	Pima County SO	

- o Not currently funded for day to day operational use by local jurisdictions or for expansion into other regions.
- o For more information, contact Karen Allen at Karen.Allen@azdoa.gov or Stephen Holland, Assistant IT Director of Telecommunications with the City of Yuma at Stephen.Holland@yumaaz.gov.

Training & Exercise *(SCIP Initiatives #10 & 11)*

- The Value Proposition of the Communications Unit - On November 19, 2013 the Public Safety Interoperable Communications Office (PSIC) hosted a seminar for public safety executive leadership and incident commanders on The Value Proposition of the Communications Unit. During all-hazards emergency response operations, radio communication among multiple jurisdictions and disciplines is essential. Trained communications professionals working to achieve interoperability among responding agencies can significantly improve communications during an emergency incident.

  Agencies in Arizona and around the country struggle with understanding the value an All-Hazards Communications Unit Leader (COML) and/or Communications Unit Technician (COMT) brings to an event or incident. Participants in this seminar heard from practitioners and subject matter experts on the value of the Communications Unit during multi-agency events, whether large scale preplanned events or rapidly developing incidents managed through the Communications Center. Speakers shared lessons learned and used real life examples of what can be accomplished when this role is integrated into events, incidents, training and exercises. In addition to the lineup of speakers, the seminar featured a question and answer panel discussion.

  The recording of this seminar is now available, along with the handouts provided during the workshop, on the PSIC website at: http://www.azpsic.gov/meetings/2013/comms_seminar_nov_19/.

  The three-hour seminar is broken into six segments:

  > Part 1: Overview of the Communications Unit
  > Part 2: The Value of the All-Hazards Communications Unit Leader (COML)
  > Part 3: Interoperability after Tragedy: Granite Mountain Memorial
  > Part 4: All-Hazards Communications Unit Technician (COMT) Deployment post Super Storm Sandy
  > Part 5: Arizona Communications Unit Training and Recognition Program
  > Part 6: Panel Discussion

- Arizona Regional All-Hazards Communications Unit Recognition:

  The NIMS-CU Workgroup convened on December 6, 2013, for an Arizona Regional All-Hazards COML/COMT Application Review Meeting:

  - o 2 candidates were granted recognition by the Workgroup as an Arizona Regional All-Hazards COML:
    - Frank Brady, Pima County Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security
    - Ian James, Verde Valley Fire District
  - o As of January 2014: 25 individuals representing agencies from 6 counties have been granted recognition as either an Arizona Regional All-Hazards COML (23) or COMT (5) (three individuals are recognized for both) and are listed on the Communications Unit Resource List (online at: www.azpsic.gov/library/coml).

    Please see the attached NIMS-CU Workgroup Update

- Communications Unit Field Day – Planning is now underway for a Field Day to be held February 19, 2014 at the Papago Park Military Reservation in Phoenix, utilizing a 2011 SHSGP grant from the Central RAC. The Field day will allow emergency responders to hone their skills and capabilities through hands-on training. Individuals who have completed a COML or COMT course in Arizona were invited to this training opportunity. Selection letters have been sent to those chosen for the event. A final planning meeting of the Event Planning Team was held on January 14 and final preparations are underway. If you have any questions regarding the Field Day contact Glade Jarman at gjarman@azpsic.gov

Usage & Outreach *(SCIP Initiative #12)*

Recent Activities

September 4, 2013 – SIEC Meeting
September 9, 2013 - Homeland Security Senior Advisory Committee Meeting
September 11-13, 2013 – Arizona Association of Chiefs of Police Vendor Expo, Laughlin, NV
September 17, 2013 – PSCC Meeting (Tucson)
September 20, 2013 – AZ APCO/NENA Quarterly Meeting - Prescott
September 24, 2013 – Gila, Graham, Greenlee TICP Development Workshop (Safford)
September 25, 2013 – 2013 Arizona Technology Summit
October 1, 2013 – Yuma BIDP Functional Exercise
October 10, 2013 – Tucson UASI Meeting October 15, 2013 – SIEC Meeting
October 16, 2013 – Yavapai County TICP Kickoff Workshop
November 4-5, 2013 – Southwestern Border Communications Working Group (SWBCWG) Meeting - Houston
November 6-7, 2013 – 2013 Statewide Exercise
November 19, 2013 – Executive Leadership Seminar: The Value Proposition of the Communications Unit
November 19, 2013 – PSCC Meeting
December 3, 2013 – Western RAC Meeting
December 4, 2013 – Northern RAC Meeting
December 5, 2013 – Central RAC Meeting
December 12, 2013 – Eastern RAC Meeting
December 13, 2013 – Southern RAC Meeting
December 25 – State Holiday (Christmas)
January 8, 2014 – Southwest Border Communications Working Group Meeting, League City, TX

Upcoming Key Dates

January 21, 2013 – Southern Arizona/Tucson Metro Area HSGP Information Seminar
January 22, 2013 – Central Arizona/Phoenix Metro Area HSGP Information Seminar
January 23, 2013 – Northern Arizona/Flagstaff Metro Area HSGP Information Seminar
February 3-5, 2014 – Regional Meetings for Graham, Greenlee, Gila, Navajo, and Apache counties
February 12-13, 2014 – Regional Meetings for Cochise and Santa Cruz Counties
February 19, 2014 – Arizona Communications Unit Field Day
May 6-9, 2014 – Western Regional APCO Conference

2014 PSCC Meeting Schedule

Unless otherwise noted, all 2014 PSCC Meetings will be held from 1 PM - 3 PM in the Arizona Department of Administration 3rd floor conference room. Additional information is available on the specific meeting page.

Tuesday, February 18
Tuesday, April 15
Tuesday, July 15 - Flagstaff, AZ
Tuesday, September 16 - Tucson, AZ
Tuesday, November 18

2014 SIEC Meeting Schedule

Unless otherwise noted, all 2014 SIEC Meetings will be held from 10 AM - 12 PM in the Arizona Department of Administration 3rd floor conference room. Additional information is available on the specific meeting page.

Tuesday, January 21
Tuesday, March 18
Tuesday, March 20
Tuesday, August 19
Tuesday, October 21

NIMS-CU Workgroup Update:
AZ Regional All-Hazards Communications Unit Recognition Program

Application Review Meeting

The Workgroup convened on December 6, 2013 for an Arizona Regional All-Hazards COML/COMT Application Review Meeting:

- As required, a minimum of 3 Workgroup members actively participated in each candidate-related action.

- 2 applications were received by the PSIC Office and distributed prior to the meeting.

- The taskbooks were evaluated by the Workgroup based on the number, depth and complexity of the incidents/events listed.

Meeting Results:

2 candidates were granted recognition by the Workgroup as an Arizona Regional All-Hazards COML:

- Frank Brady, Pima County Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security

- Ian James, Verde Valley Fire District

A letter confirming recognition as an Arizona Regional All-Hazards COML was sent to each candidate and copied to their Agency Certifying Official.

The individuals were added to the Arizona Regional All-Hazards Communications Resource List, which is posted on the PSIC Website at: http://www.azpsic.gov/library/coml/.

Currently, 25 individuals from 6 counties have been granted Arizona Regional All-Hazards COML or COMT recognition. (Three individuals hold both COML and COMT recognition.)

Next Steps:

- The PSIC Office will continue to review submitted application materials for completeness and distribute them to the Workgroup for consideration.

- Complete application materials are due to the PSIC Office at least 1 week prior to the Application Review Meeting to be included for consideration.

- If complete application materials have been received, the next Application Review Meeting will occur approximately 2 weeks prior to the March, 2014 SIEC meeting.